



WANDERERS CRASH OUT OF TROPHY

WYCOMBE, who seem to reserve their worst performances for the big occasions, crashed out of the F.A. Trophy in depressing fashion against sharp shooters Sutton on Saturday.

Sutton, who never before had reached the second round, stormed into the third with some clinical finishing against a Wycombe defence riddled with errors.

So Wanderers' hopes of a good Trophy run are over for another season after their heaviest ever defeat in this prestigious competition. They do not even have the consolation of saying they were unlucky.

After a great deal of agonising Mike Keen finally preferred the more mobile Phil Bycroft to partner Bobby Davies at the heart of the defence.

Although neither individually had a bad game, they appeared to lack understanding as a partnership and the defence was constantly caught out through the middle.

In front of a depressingly small crowd of about 700, Wycombe started promisingly, dictating the play for the first 20 minutes. It might have all been so different had Terry Scott scored in the third minute instead of putting his close range header over the bar.

During the early stages Steve Long shot across the face of goal following a quick break, while Mick Holifield saw a shot saved by Dave Collyer.

Unmarked

With Wycombe setting the pace, it was clear that Sutton's counter-attacks needed watching but a failure to mark tightly led to the visitors trailing by two goals at the end of an even first half.

Sutton's first goal in the 28th minute was clinically simple. Graham Dennis put Ian Parsons away down the left. Parsons' early centre found Mickey Joyce un-

throughball and cleverly lobbed the ball over the advancing Lester. It was a brilliantly taken goal, to which the visitors had no answer.

With the out-of-touch Terry Glynn tightly marked, Wanderers could make little impact against the Sutton defence although Long was unlucky once to see a near post header cleared off the line.

Wycombe, who forced seven corners to their opponents one (a sign that they were by no means outclassed), brought on Gary Toll and Long in the 63rd minute — and within 60 seconds went further behind.

Little blame should be attached to the Wycombe defence for this score — a rasping left foot shot by Sunnucks from the right corner of the penalty area which soared high into the far side of the goal, a superb piece of

finishing after a brilliant inside jink.

Six minutes later Sutton were even further ahead. Following a period of pressure inside Wycombe's penalty area Keith Waldon drove the ball low across the goal mouth and Parsons added the vital touch near the far post.

Penalty

The Blues were becoming dispirited at this stage, although their morale was lifted a little in the 72nd minute when they received a penalty after Holifield was brought down by Tony Rains. Howard Kennedy drove the spot-kick firmly into the left side of goal.

But this mild jubilation did not last long as three minutes later Dennis ran on to Sunnucks' superbly timed

through ball down the middle and beat Lester with a well-placed shot.

This was the fourth goal in an 11 minute period of high activity, which started with George Borg receiving his ninth booking of the season for a foul on Joyce, who was also cautioned for retaliation.

SUTTON: D. Collyer; S. Rogers, R. Green, J. Rains, T. Rains, R. Sunnucks, K. Waldon, L. Pritchard, M. Joyce, I. Parsons; G. Dennis. Sub: M. Stephens (not used).

WYCOMBE: G. Lester; P. Birdseye, G. Borg, R. Davies, P. Bycroft, R. Dell, S. Long (sub: G. Toll 63 mins); H. Kennedy, T. Glynn, T. Scott, M. Holifield.

Referee: M. J. Boreham (Brighton).
Half-time: 2-0. **Scorers:** Sutton-Joyce (28 mins), Parsons (45, 70), Sunnucks (64), Dennis (75). Wycombe-Kennedy (pen 72 mins).

Friendly

WYCOMBE meet Denmark Under 23 side in a friendly at Loakes Park on Thursday at 7.30 pm.



Sutton goalkeeper Dave Collyer dives to his right but cannot stop Howard Kennedy scoring Wycombe's only goal from the penalty spot.

marked and the centre forward drove the ball under the diving Lester from the edge of the area.

The real killer goal was the second just before the interval. Parsons outpaced the Wycombe defence to Joyce's